

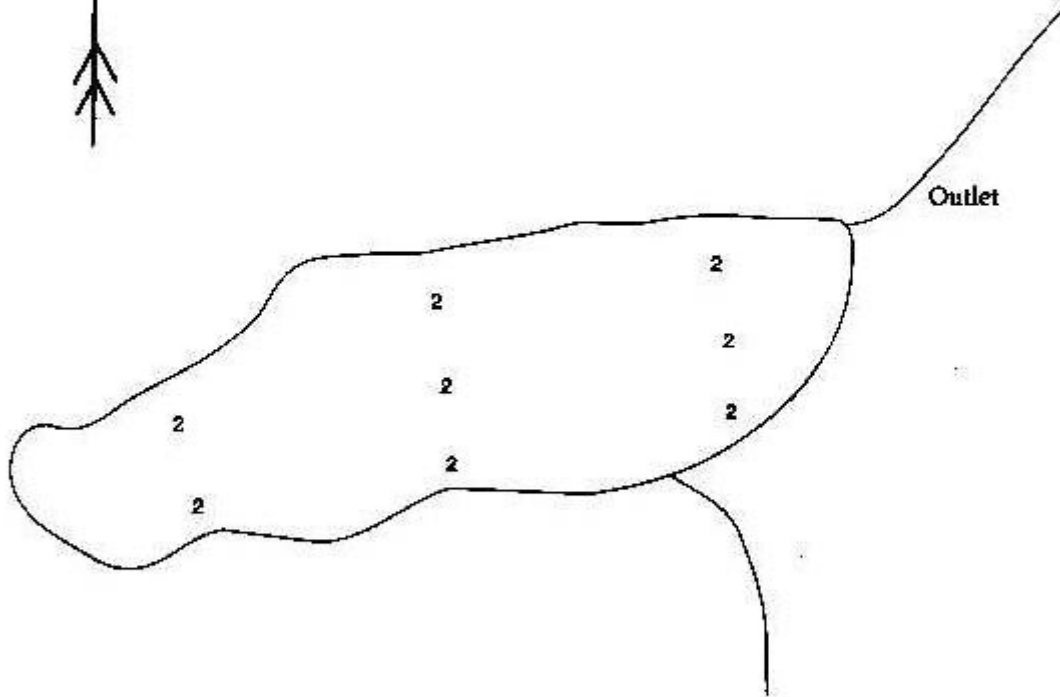
MIDAS # 2662

**Grassy Pond**

Holeb, Somerset Co., ME

Area 15 Acres

U.S.G.S. Attean



Scale 25" = 1 mile  
Shoreline Feet 2,798



# GRASSY POND

Holeb Twp., Somerset Co.  
U.S.G.S. Holeb, Me (7 1/2')

## Fishes

Brook trout

## Physical Characteristics

Area - 15 acres

Maximum depth - 2 feet

Temperatures:

Surface - 75°F

2 feet - 73°F

Principal fisheries: Brook trout

Grassy Pond is a small shallow trout pond located midway between Big Fish Pond and Little Fish Pond in Holeb. There are no roads in the immediate area making access to this pond very difficult. A hike along the Public Land boundary line that is located on the south side of Big Fish Pond is the easiest route of travel to Grassy Pond.

The surrounding forest is predominately softwood. The immediate shoreline around the entire pond is floating bog. There are many springs on the south shore that enter the pond along the undercut banks of the floating bog. These areas provide a cool refuge for brook trout. At the time of the survey the area at the mouth of the outlet was a virtually impassable due to a dense mat of aquatic grass. The channel below this was obstructed with old beaver dams. Except for periods of high flow, fish passage would be impossible. No spawning habitat was found near the outlet or the spring areas.

Shallow depth severely limits the wild brook trout population in Grassy Pond. The pond is very susceptible to summer and winter kills. This is supported by the sample of trout taken from Grassy Pond during the survey. Despite the remote location and being closed to fishing, factors that would allow for maximum escapement to older ages, there were no trout older than age 2 taken in the sample indicating poor survival.

Little Fish Pond, Grassy Pond and their outlets (which form the Thoroughfare at Big Fish Pond) have been closed to fishing since 1965. At that time, local anglers felt that Grassy and Little Fish Ponds were providing forage and natural reproduction to Big Fish Pond, and closing the smaller ponds would improve the declining fishery at Big Fish Pond. Of the three ponds, only Big Fish Pond has any substantial amount of spawning habitat. There may be movement between the ponds during periods of high water, but it's likely that young trout from Big Fish Pond are moving into Grassy and Little Fish Ponds, where they become trapped during periods of low water. The decline in fishing quality at Big Fish Pond in 1965 was probably related to the new logging road that ended within a few yards of the pond. Prior to the logging road, a 2-mile hike or plane was need to access the pond.

Surveyed - August, 1995  
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